

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A charging and communication system for a handheld computer
2 system, said handheld computer system having a first interface for receiving power and
3 data communication signals, said charging and communication system comprising:
4 a charger system for supplying electrical power, said charger system having a
5 second interface for coupling with said first interface; and
6 a data communication and charging cable, said data communication and charging
7 cable comprising
8 a third interface for coupling to said handheld computer system,
9 a fourth interface for coupling to a second computer system, and
10 a fifth interface for coupling to said second interface of said charger
11 system.

1 2. The charging and communication system of claim 1 wherein said
2 fourth interface comprises a Universal Serial Bus interface.

1 3. The charging and communication system of claim 1 wherein said
2 fourth interface comprises a standard serial interface.

1 4. The charging and communication system of claim 1 wherein said
2 third interface comprises a small connector for coupling to said first interface of handheld
3 computer system.

1 5. The charging and communication system of claim 1 wherein said
2 third interface comprises a docking cradle for coupling to said first interface of handheld
3 computer system.

1 6. The charging and communication system of claim 1 further
2 comprising:
3 a docking cradle, said docking cradle including a sixth interface for coupling to
4 said third interface.

1 7. The charging and communication system of claim 6 wherein said
2 docking cradle comprises a seventh interface, said seventh interface for coupling to said
3 first interface on said handheld computer system.

1 8. A method of providing charging power and data communication
2 signals to a handheld computer system, said handheld computer system having a first
3 interface for receiving power and data communication signals, said method comprising:
4 coupling a second interface on a data communication and charging cable to said
5 first interface of said handheld computer system, said data communication and
6 charging cable further comprising a third interface for receiving data signals
7 and a fourth interface for receiving power; and
8 a charger system for supplying electrical power, said charger system having a fifth
9 interface for coupling with said first interface on said handheld computer
10 system or said fourth interface on said data communication and charging
11 cable.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein said third interface comprises a
2 Universal Serial Bus interface.

1 10. The method of claim 8 wherein said third interface comprises a
2 standard serial interface.

1 11. The method of claim 8 wherein said second interface comprises a
2 small connector for coupling to said first interface of handheld computer system and
3 includes a button.

1 12. The method of claim 8 wherein said second interface comprises a
2 docking cradle for coupling to said first interface of handheld computer system.

1 13. The method of claim 8 further comprising:
2 dropping said handheld computer system into a docking cradle comprising a sixth
3 interface for coupling with said first interface.

1 14. The method of claim 8 further comprising:
2 coupling a seventh interface to said second interface, said seventh interface on
3 said docking cradle coupled to said sixth on said docking cradle.

1 15. A charging circuit for a handheld computer system, said charging
2 circuit comprising:
3 a battery;
4 a first transistor for charging said battery;
5 a charging control circuit for controlling said first transistor; and
6 an indicator circuit, said indicator circuit powered by said battery using leakage
7 current passing through said first transistor when said transistor is turned off.

1 16. The charging circuit of claim 15 wherein said indicator circuit
2 comprises a light emitting diode.

1 17. The charging circuit of claim 15 wherein said first transistor
2 comprises a field effect transistor.

1 18. The charging circuit for a handheld computer system of claim 15,
2 said charging circuit further comprising:
3 a second transistor for controlling said indicator circuit.

1 19. The charging circuit for a handheld computer system of claim 15,
2 said charging circuit further comprising:
3 a processor for controlling said charging control circuit.

1 20. The charging circuit for a handheld computer system of claim 18,
2 said charging circuit further comprising:
3 a processor for controlling said second transistor .